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White on White Battle Halts Klan Exhibit



protest an exhibit held by the Knights of the

By Sharyn Bratcher Staff Writer

Those who anticipated trouble over the Klan use of the Main Library auditorium saw their predictions come true Monday night when a white on white confrontation closed the exhibit.

"This is why everybody was upset to have this thing," said County Commissioner Mazie Woodruff, also a member of the library board. "We knew something like this would happen. But it wasn't black and I'm glad of that."

Vernon Logan, local leader of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, had requested and received permission to use the main library auditorium for an exhibit of Klan materials.

William H. Roberts III, director of the library, granted permission for the event without checking with the library board. He explained that the library policy states that as long as an exhibit is free and open to the public, a group must be granted permission to use the facility.

"It certainly got out of hand," Roberts commented. The exhibit began quietly enough. Members of the NAACP had begun picketing the library at 9 a.m., but the demonstration was peaceful.

"Some people riding by in cars shouted things at us," said Russ MacDonald, one of the marchers. "But then a lot of white people going into the library said that they agreed with us."

When the exhibit opened at 6:30 p.m., the auditorium was crowded with both black and white visitors viewing

the displays, while Klan members stood impassively against the wall or talked with newsmen.

NAACP president Patrick Hairston told reporters that he did not consider the Klan exhibit violent enough.

"They ought to show bombing little children, and dynamite," Hairston repeated. "It's not violent enough."

Larry Womble, a member of the library board, recalled the scene: "It was like a reception at first. Everybody was just standing around in small groups talking about their jobs and socializing, and all of a sudden there was this guy standing in the middle of the floor screaming and hollering..."

The disturbance was created by David Burtt of Greensboro, a member of the National United Workers Organization. He began shouting for people to tear the Klan exhibits off the walls.

"And then the Nazis came through the door," Womble continued, "And they were screaming and hollering, and I told the director right then to close it down."

"I think the whole thing was staged to stop it," said Joe Grady, a spokesman for the Federated Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. "The communists started it."

Grady complained that the police restrained Klansmen, but added: "Nobody held the blacks or communists."

Grady said that this group still plans to rent the convention center at some later date, but now he said he

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CHAPEL HILL, NC

SEPT. 1979

NAACP president Patrick Hairston studies a display of Klan materials at Monday's exhibit in the public library.

BD Regulations

By Sharyn Bratcher Staff Writer

Klan.

if the Liquor-By-The-Drink rempasses in Forsyth County, it is that only one black business qualify for a liquor license: s Northside.

. . .

lack places are going

to have problems..."

ding to the conditions of the tion law, in order to qualify for a to sell mixed beverages to the the restaurant must make 51% wss sales on food, seat at least 36 c, and have a kitchen facility.

ack Input Grows Foreign Policy

"Because the law requires a predetermined percentage of food sales, black places are going to have problems," said John Duncan, director of Midwest Piedmont Area Business Development Organization. "But if the bill is passed, then we can go about getting black establishments that meet the requirement."

Duncan, whose organization helps minority persons to start businesses, indicated that some new black restaurants are in the planning stage.

The political action committee of the Winston-Salem chapter of the NAACP favors the passing of the local option law, saying that it will provide jobs,

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Nathaniel Wiseman

Water Bonds Receive Community Support

By Sharyn Bratcher Staff Writer

A consensus of Winston-Salem's olack leaders are urging the community to vote in favor of the \$14 million bond referendum in the Tuesday, March 6th balloting. The bonds will finance an expansion of the city's water treatment capacity in anticipation of future needs.

Voters will be asked to approve \$14 million in general obligation bonds which will be matched with \$4 million in state money. The proposed water improvement program will increase the treatment capability of the Neilson Treatment Plant, improve the water distribution system, and increase ground storage facilities.

Unlike the controversial Liquor-By-The-Drink proposal, the water bond issue seems to be without opponents. "I don't know of a soul who is against it." said E. Lawrence Davis, chairman of the Citizen's Committee for the Water Bond Referendum. "We're very pleased that our publicity campaign has been so successful."

"We've been pushing it in my ward," commented alderman Virginia Newell. "I'll be disappointed if it doesn't pass. All the people I've been talking to in my area are for it — and some of those people have experienced the water shortage."

Alderman Vivian Burke of the Northeast Ward also favors the bond referendum. "I think it will enable us to bring new industry into the area," she observed.

The general obligation bonds are considered the least expensive way of

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By John W. Templeton Staff Writer

SHINGTON -- The outspoken visibility of Andrew and the quiet efficiency of Barbara Watson are the of a growing black input in American foreign

B. the congressman turned United Mations Mador, and Watson, assistant secretary of state for ar affairs, are both black, however, they are not blacks taking an active interest in shaping Molicy.

in thago, a group of 300 black leaders from around many met with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to their concerns about American diplomacy. State ment official Gordon Hill said the secretary was so we with the exchange that he is pressing his staff age more meetings with a group of 14 chosen by kerbody to meet regularly with the secretary.

Ra role in setting up the unprecedented meeting blacks and the State Department was the new the Washington lobbying scene, TransAfrica. Is itself as "the Black American lobby on Africa Catibbean."

al Robinson, TransAfrica executive director, said tess of the meeting with Vance will be measured utent to which the process continues. "We told tetary's office when they first called. that you we a successful meeting discussing 40 issues in utes," said Robinson. "You have to have a ment for continued dialogue."

Minca, founded last year with the aid of the kional Black Caucus, has a membership of said Robinson. The membership ranges from there to businessmen to black elected officials. Richard G. Hatcher of Gary, Inc. is chairman;



Speaking Out...

U.S.Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young tells a group of editors in Washington that the U.N. can be a valuable resource in resolving disputes short of war.

entertainer Harry Belafonte is vice chairman.

"We are a lens through which black Americans can focus their feelings on Africa and the Caribbean," said Robinson of his organization. TransAfrica has sent' letters to both the president and Congress on a number

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Debtors Could Go To Jail

By Sharyn Bratcher Staff Writer

Under New Proposal

"A debtors prison in disguise" is the term one attorney used to describe a bill sponsored by the N.C. Bar Association that is supposed to offer advantages for both creditors and debtors.

The bill, which is proposed by the Subcommittee on Enforcement of Judgments of the North Carolina Bar Association Committee on Courts and Civil Litigation, would expand the real and personal property exemptions of debtors, but it would also permit the garnishment of wages and permit the court to put the debtor in jail for contempt of court if he does not pay his debt.

Leon Corbett, dean of the Wake Forest University Law School, drafted the bill. "The purpose of the bill is to clarify and update the law," he explained.

North Carolina's laws concerning debtors and creditors are antiquated, Corbett explained. The new law provides added protection for both creditors and debtors.

Although the North Carolina Bar Association is backing the bill, not all attorneys are in favor of it.

Irving Joyner, chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee for the N.C. Association of Black Lawyers, commented: "The bill would hurt black and poor people. They are not as aware of law and court proceedings as most people."

Joyner pointed out that creditors win many debt cases by default — that is, the debtor does not come to court to present his side of the case, so he automatically loses. "Poor people are transient," said Joyner. "Sometimes they are not even notified until the default judgment has already been entered."

"This is a creditors' bill," Joyner concluded. "I am opposed to it, at least until it provides a meaningful protection for the debtor."

Attorney Paul Sinal of the Legal Aid Society opposes the bill, citing a number of negative effects the bill will have:

"It turns the court into a collection agency," Sinal noted. He explained that the bill could result in more crowding of the court system, since each debt case could be presented several times in court: once for the initial judgment, then for setting up payment schedules, establishing receiverships, or dealing with noncompliance on the part of the debtor.

James Frenzel, a local attorney who wrote an article on the new bill, maintains that the creditor's attorney should do most of the work, so that the bill should not cause more work for the court.

District Court Judge William Freeman disagrees. He feels that the proposed law would crowd the courts. "It's too cumbersome," said Freeman. "I feel that

"It's too cumbersome," said Freeman. "I feel that people ought to be more careful who they give credit to, instead of concentrating on how to collect after it's made."

He indicated that the bill might make creditors inclined to lend money even more indiscriminately, since the bill would give them greater powers to collect.

Sinal noted that the new bill would, in effect, allow people to be put in jail for debt. The court can garnish the debtor's wages or set up a payment schedule, and if the debtor does not cooperate, he can be jailed for contempt of court.

"The act is aimed at those who have it and won't pay it," said James Frenzel. He pointed out that North Carolina is one of only two states not having wage garnishment.

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